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**CLAIMS:**

1. A method for providing goods or services to a subscriber of a communications network, the method including the steps of:
  - (a) verifying a calling party number;
  - 5 (b) verifying the identity of the subscriber associated with the calling party number;
  - (c) verifying the age of the subscriber; and,
  - (d) providing the subscriber with a subscriber identifier to enable access to the goods or services.
- 10 2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the subscriber identifier in step (d) is a Personal Identification Number or PIN.
- 15 3. A method according to either one of claims 1 or 2, wherein step (a) includes:
  - receiving a manually generated number from the calling party;
  - receiving an automatically transmitted calling party number; and,
  - matching the manually generated number and the automatically transmitted calling party number.
- 20 4. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, step (b) includes:
  - receiving manually generated data from the calling party;
  - accessing subscriber identity data from a subscriber database of calling
  - 25 party numbers and associated subscriber entities; and,
  - matching the subscriber identity data with the manually generated data.
5. A method according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein the database is a telephone directory.

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6. A method according to claim 5, wherein the database is accessible locally or remotely.

7. A method according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein step (c)  
5 includes:

receiving manually generated age verification data from the calling party;  
accessing subscriber age verification data from a database; and,  
matching the subscriber age verification data with the manually  
generated age verification data.

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8. A method according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein the subscriber age verification data stored in the database includes credit card details and/or drivers licence numbers.

15 9. A method according to anyone of the preceding claims, wherein the goods or services are accessed or provided via a fixed or mobile telephony network.

10. A method according to anyone of claims 1 to 8, wherein the goods or  
20 services are accessed or provided via the Internet.

11. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the goods or services are a restricted communications service.

12. A system for providing goods or services to a subscriber of a  
25 communications network, the system including:

number verification means for verifying a calling party number;  
identity verifying means for verifying the identity of the subscriber associated with the calling party number;  
age verifying means verifying the age of the subscriber; and,

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subscriber identifier notification means for providing the subscriber with a subscriber identifier to enable access to the goods or services.

13. A system according to claim 12, wherein the subscriber identifier is a  
5 Personal Identification Number or PIN.

14. A method according to either one of claims 12 or 13, wherein the number verification means acts to  
receive a manually generated number from the calling party;  
10 receive an automatically transmitted calling party number; and,  
match the manually generated number and the automatically transmitted calling party number.

15. A system according to any one of the claims 12 to 14, wherein the  
15 identity verifying means acts to:  
receive manually generated data from the calling party;  
access subscriber identity data from a subscriber database of calling party numbers and associated subscriber entities; and,  
match the subscriber identity data with the manually generated data.

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16. A system according to anyone of claims 12 to 15, wherein the database is a telephone directory.

17. A system according to claim 16, wherein the database is accessible  
25 locally or remotely.

18. A system according to anyone of claims 12 to 17, wherein the age verifying means acts to:  
receive manually generated age verification data from the calling party;  
30 access subscriber age verification data from a database; and,

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match the subscriber age verification data with the manually generated age verification data.

19. A system according to anyone of claims 12 to 18, wherein the subscriber  
5 age verification data stored in the database includes credit card details and/or  
drivers licence numbers.

20. A system according to anyone of claims 12 to 19, wherein the goods or  
services are accessed or provided via a fixed or mobile telephony network.  
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21. A system according to anyone of claims 12 to 19, wherein the goods or  
services are accessed or provided via the Internet.

22. A system according to any one of claims 12 to 21, wherein the goods or  
15 services are a restricted communications service.